Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Not exactly. It was done with the knowledge of the Inspector.

Site—Primary School for Vaduthala.

219. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the site for constructing a primary school at Vaduthala has been selected by the Government;

(b) whether the Government have received any petition for selecting any particular site; and if so;

(c) whether that site has been approved of by the Government;

(d) what is the approximate cost;

(e) whether any other site has been inspected for constructing the school buildings and if so;

(f) how many have been inspected and their approximate cost;

(g) whether there is a road leading to the site selected by the Government and if not;

(h) what steps have been taken by the Government to open a road to that place?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. (more than one).

(c) Yes.

(d) Rs. 900 approximately.

(e) The site was selected after inspecting several alternative sites.

(f) Please see answer to (e). The cost of one is about Rs. 1,500 and of another Rs. 900.

(g) Yes.

(h) No answer required in view of the answer to question (g).

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there not a large attendance of Muslim girls at the school?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not the changed site a centre of orthodox Ezhuvas?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I do not know exactly. The site is better than the one on which the original school stood.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is it not a place of orthodox Ezhuvas?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There are some Ezhuvas there. But I do not know whether they are orthodox or not.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will not the Pulaya boys be obstructed from going there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No. Why should it be?

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there not untouchability and unapproachability between the Pulayas and the Ezhuvas ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That has nothing to do with the school. It is open to all classes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there any obstruction for passing through roads ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—These roads are accessible to all classes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there any public road there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There is a public road, but whether it is maintained by the Panchayat or the P. W. D., I don't know.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are there any instances of Ezhuvas obstructing the passage of any Pulayas along the roads?

Mr. I N. Menon.—I do not know.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not the school near the Muslim Mosque?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there not a Panchayat well at the present site?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I cannot recollect.

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—There is one.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not the school a Muslim school?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I do not know what the Hon'ble Member means by a Muslim school? It is intended for all classes. There is a majority of Muslim pupils.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are not Fridays and Ramzan holidays there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I think so.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not Quran and Arabic taught there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is taught in other schools also.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Has it not got some Muslim features about it.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes; as in the case of many other schools.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not the school in the heart of the Muslim population there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I cannot say exactly. There is a very large number of Muslim houses.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will you kindly make enquiries?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state, in the case of schools with some denominational features whether finance alone is the main consideration?

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Mr. I. N. Menon.—Finance is the consideration in most cases and also for propaganda we have to restrict financial expenditure. Lavish expenditure even on propaganda is not possible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have not the Government made it a policy to give a portion of the public revenue for the special purpose of denominational propaganda?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have no information.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Whether the present proposal to change the site will be detrimental to the moral progress of Muslim education?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It all depends on how the Muslims take it themselves. It is only two furlongs from this side of the road, and if they refuse to go to the school, they will say that it is detrimental. If on the other hand they simply accept the new site as the more suitable one and go to the school at the same time, it may not be detrimental to their education. It will be a step in the right direction.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Whether the Member for Education is aware that the proposed change will wound Muslim interests and feelings there?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That was what two Muslim gentlemen who approached me as representatives of the Muslims there told me and I said I shall make further enquiries.

President.—There are also other Members who wish to ask supplementary questions. So please see that time is not unnecessarily wasted.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(f) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the proposed cost of Rs. 1,500 was suggested by the owner of the present site?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—How long was the school remaining in its present site?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice, but I know it has been there for a long time.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Are the Government aware that the Member for Cranganur presided over a meeting there at Vaduthala?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I saw a press notice to that effect.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Was the meeting one of Muslim inhabitants of the locality?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I did not go into the details.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government allow the school to be situated in such a place that it would be convenient and accessible to all classes and communities?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That was the consideration which induced the Government to select this site.

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The fact that the Member for Cranganur went and presided over a meeting at Vaduthala, does it not show that he has taken stock of the situation and felt properly the Muslim demands and the merits of the case?

President.—It is not a question for information.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Is there a purely Muslim school anywhere?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There is none except perhaps the Muslim school at Azhikode. But I think others are admitted even there.

Applications—appointments—Chittur Taluk.

220. Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many applications for appointment in Cochin State Service were received from candidates from the Chittur Taluk for the last quarter of 1107 in the various departments;

(b) how many were appointed and how many applications are pending consideration now;

(c) how many officers there are in the State Service from Chittur Taluk who hold apppointments on a salary of Rs. 100 or above per mensem?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a), (b) and (c) A statement containing the available information is appended. (*Appendix II.*)

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to give the information regarding the Police and Education Departments?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We did not get the information from those departments.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Hon'ble Member please see that the information is available before the next session at least?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—There were 7 applicants in the Land Revenue Department. May I know whether any appointment was made in the Land Revenue Department after the receipt of these applications from the Chittur Taluk?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Are not the compounders the employees of Government? I know two applications sent from the Chittur Taluk; I forwarded them to the Chief Medical Officer. I do not therefore know what value we can attach to the appendix. I do not find them here.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I will make an enquiry.

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